

SHELL CREEK BRIDGE
1.1 mi. W. of Shell ^{WYOMING BRIDGE}
County Road No. 57
Big Horn County
Wyoming

72
HAER NO. WY-170

HAER
WYD,
2-SHELV,
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
National Park Service
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
Department of the Interior
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

Shell Creek Bridge

HAER No. WY-⁷²~~47-8~~

HAER
WYO.
2 - SHEL, V,
1-

Location: Spanning Shell Creek, on County Road No. 57;
1.1 miles west of Shell, in Big Horn County, Wyoming

UTM: 13.277400.4934870
Quad: Shell

Date of Construction: 1920

Builder/Designer: Midland Bridge Company of Kansas City

Present Owner: Big Horn County
Fifth and C Streets
Basin, Wyoming 82410

Present Use: Vehicular Traffic

Significance: It is an excellent early example of a Warren variation.
A rigid connected Warren Pony truss with verticals at
alternating panel points, it is the longest traceable
example of its type.

Historians: Clayton B. Fraser and Richard G. Ewig
November 1981

~~NOTE: For more general information, see Wyoming Truss Bridges Survey,
HAER No. WY 17.~~

I. HISTORY

In 1920, Big Horn County received only one bid for the erection of a bridge over Shell Creek and, therefore, awarded the contract to the Midland Bridge Company of Kansas City for \$4,500.¹

II. DESCRIPTION

The Shell Creek Bridge is a single span, steel rigid connected eight panel Warren Pony truss with verticals at alternating panel points. The structure is 60 feet long, with a 15-foot, 7-inch roadway.

The structure has concrete full retaining abutments with timber stringers and decking. The top chords are two channels with cover plate and lacing; bottom chords are two angles; verticals are two angles with batten plates, and diagonals are two angles with batten plates.²

¹ Big Horn County Commissioners' Minutes, April 6, 1920.

² Historical Bridge Survey and Inventory Form. Wyoming State Highway Department.